

REMARKS

Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview conducted October 16, 2006, during which it was clarified that the Examiner's position is that the claimed regulating of discharge is met by the mere design choice of a size and shape of a passage in the prior art. To expedite prosecution, the applicant has amended the pending independent claims 20, 38, and 69 to emphasize that the regulation is carried out by metering the quantity of fluid which moves through the second path. Support for the amendment can be found, for example, at page 4, lines 7-10. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that he would need to give such an amendment further consideration.

Further to the response to final office action, dated September 15, 2006, the applicant submits that neither Kagawa nor Obenchain describes or suggests discharge along a second path being regulated by metering the quantity of fluid which moves through the second path, as now claimed. Furthermore, neither Grinberg nor Savage overcomes the deficiencies.

Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 16, 2006

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